

# The birth, life and death of convective plumes generated by a green laser in an isothermal fluid

Albert N. Sharifulin

Department of Applied Physics,  
Perm State Technical University, Perm, 614990, Russia

Anatoly N. Poludnitsin

Department of Common Physics,  
Perm State University, Perm, 614000, Russia

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## Abstract

The aim is to laboratory simulation of convective plumes in the lower mantle, generated by a hot spot on the Earth's core. In the fluid dynamics video, presented results of experimental modeling of the plume from the hot point generated by the laser. Demonstrated that in a fluid with a high Prandtl number, point heating can generate complex spiral plumes. This experimental result allows us to question the classical notion of a mantle plume, as the column of heat (Campbell, IH, 2006, Large Igneous Provinces and the mantle plume hypothesis, Elements, 1, 265-269, 2006).

1. Experiment 1. Convective plume generated by a green laser in an water, Prandtl number  $Pr=7$ . Cubic cavity 25x25x25 cm.
2. Experiment 2. Spiral convective plume generated by a green laser in an silicon oil with Prandtl number  $Pr=50$ . Cubic cavity 9x9x9 cm.
3. Purpose of investigation: Laboratory scale modeling of mantle plumes generation from hot point on Earth core.
4. Equipment: 0.2W green laser, shlieren dev IAB-451, digital photo camera Canon EOS 50D.